

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**HB 422 - SB 637**

February 27, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Broadens the offense of cruelty to animals to include knowingly restraining a dog in a manner that is inhumane or detrimental to the dog's welfare or preventing such dog from gaining access to food, water or shelter. First offense is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor. Second or subsequent offense is punishable as a Class E felony.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$6,600 / Incarceration\***

**Increase Local Govt. Revenues – Not Significant**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant**

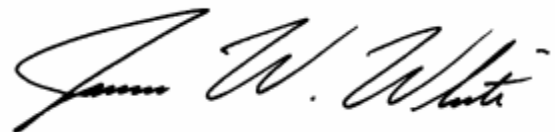
**Assumptions:**

- One additional Class E felony per year for second or subsequent conviction of cruelty to animals as a result of this bill. According to the Department of Correction, the average operating cost per inmate per day for calendar year 2007 is \$60.16. The cost per inmate at 0.3 years (109.58 days) is \$6,592.33 (\$60.16 x 109.58 days).
- No significant incarceration cost increase will occur due to population growth in this period.
- There will not be a sufficient additional number of prosecutions for local governments to experience any significant increase in revenues or expenses.

\*Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 9-4-210, requires that: *For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law. The amount appropriated from recurring revenues shall be based upon the highest cost of the next 10 years.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director